

Minutes of MC 26th May 2022, at 12.30

Present: Tony Disley, Ceri Pierce, Alan Screen, Steve Webb, Paddy Murphy, Sophie Cunningham (part)

1. **Apologies:** Jean Hand

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – accepted with amendment to include Lady Milne costs.

Alan Screen was appointed as Chairman in the absence of The President.

3. **CEO Report**

Plans are underway for European Championships. We have 2 votes for our EBL representatives. Our vote was discussed and will go to Ian Payne (EBU) and Paul Porteous (CBAI).

There is one Open Team and two Women's Pairs playing in the championships. Ceri will act as NPC (unpaid) for the Open Team

The Teltscher was held in NI last weekend. Wales finished 5th

BGB held their AGM earlier this month. Scotland will be the next Chair. Wales declined the chairmanship for 22-23 but will be able to take it up in 23-24 if that is our wish. Minutes are on the BGB website.

Realbridge and Paul Lamford have offered to do an 8-10 board session (free of charge) with Paul doing a 'round the fireside' chat afterwards to discuss the boards.

Until a Treasurer is found, Ceri will act as interim treasurer. A handover from Fiona has taken place. A possible treasurer has been identified and would require Sage (or similar) and a laptop. It was agreed that the new treasurer's workload should be simplified as much as possible.

Fiona had circulated a pie chart of the WBU income/expenditure breakdown which was very interesting, however it was commented that it should be simpler as competitions for example are shown as both income and expenditure. Collation of entries should be part of the entry procedure, or via a platform such as Stepbridge.

Now that Ceri is operating the account, a monitor has been appointed to oversee any account activity, at her request.

Fiona will not have the audited accounts back until mid-June. A handover of the paperwork and setting up Sage Accounts on the PC has been delayed until then. If we find a new Treasurer beforehand, it will of course be handed over to them rather than Ceri.

There are ongoing problems with access to the StepBridge account for Tony H which Fiona and I are trying to resolve.

Most of the Lady Milne invoices and expenses have been paid. A small amount is outstanding due to technical difficulties. All the NBOs have paid their bills.

Other bills paid: BGB subs, Teltscher NPC expenses, Mixed Pairs TD.

The balance in the current account as at 24th May is £23.725.

4. **Masterpoints and Membership**

A summary of club membership was circulated in advance. There are 440 members at present, with other clubs still to return their subscriptions. A few clubs are not reaffiliating due to lack of members. A new club, Mid Glamorgan Online has been formed.

5. NTO Report

Jean circulated her report beforehand. Commented that the entry procedure for events needs to be reviewed – it had not gone well manually and the use of BESS or a similar entry system would be beneficial.

6. AGM

As there is currently no President in post, agreed that Tony would ask the Past President to stand in as Chairman and if not, then the Past Past President to be invited.

It is planned to hold the meeting as a hybrid event. A technical person will need to be at the AGM to help facilitate this. Ceri to identify someone suitable who will be at the Perry and Spickett.

Constitutional changes were circulated in advance, discussed and agreed. Steve to read and comment further if appropriate.

2 reps from each area need to be nominated and sent to Ceri for the Council meeting if they have not already done so.

Action all

7. Area Reports

Sophie was welcomed to the meeting as the new EWBA representative.

WWBA had held their AGM online. There were only 5 tables at their AGM event which was disappointing. The following reps were elected:

Chairman	Steve Jarvis
Secretary	Peter Milewski
ATO	Dave Nicklin
Temporary Treasurer	Bob Alderdice

Steve requested an email from WWBA to confirm this so that he can update his database and Ceri can update the officials mailing list.

Action TD

EWBA

Sophie to email details of the new EWBA committee also to Steve and Ceri, which are as follows:

Chairman	Sophie Cunningham
Secretary	William Parkinson
ATO	Helen Houston
Treasurer	Richard Plackett

Action SC

EWBA reported that a discussion was held at their AGM regarding recruitment of new members. In the past they have recruited from Cardiff University, but none of the others. Support for clubs in the form of teaching materials would be welcome. Ceri reported that there is a 5 nations working group set up so that the home NBOs can share materials, teaching techniques and events. She will request that Sophie is added to the membership of this group.

Action CP

In the past the WBU had been into schools, but following initial lessons, there was no support from local clubs so it fell apart. It is therefore important that any initiative has the support of local clubs for new members and new players in order to provide an environment in which they can play and enjoy bridge.

MWBA reported that each area has a Perry and Spickett team. It was proposed that the Presidents cup is dropped for this year and reviewed next year as there seems to be little interest in it.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday 28th June at 11.00am. Agreed to invite the new treasurer and the incoming President.